Reflection paper McCall-1

In doing my action research plan I considered what would be best for the student. I felt that he would benefit the most from after school tutoring. With this in mind, we planned four tutoring sessions of approximately 30 minutes each. Each session targeted a specific skill. The first session we worked on vocabulary, and figuring out words in context. I used a Janet Allen book to get some high interest activities to use with Gavin.

The second session focused on spelling. For this session we focused on some science words he will be expected to know. We focused on artifacts to help him remember the word. This gave him an easy association when it came to spelling the word. His spelling suffers mainly because he does not focus on how things are truly spelled, but on how they sound. He often spelled using slang, such as gonna, and cuz. When we focused more on thinking the word out, and using the artifact to remember, he did well.

The third third and forth we read and discussed stories. We focused on comprehension and listening skills. Again, I used activities from Janet Allen. I gave Gavin a page with blanks and as we read the story, he had to fill in the blanks with the correct answer. This forced him to really listen to what was being said, and to focus. We also worked on comprehension, but using a concept map and mapping how themes and issues affected the story.

All in all I believe the tutoring sessions were very useful. I think that Gavin was able to gain some insight and skills. He enjoys learning and strives to better himself. I also think that the tutoring sessions taught me how to be a better teacher. I learned to be creative, how to match up activities with a student’s needs, and how to fully differentiate my teaching.